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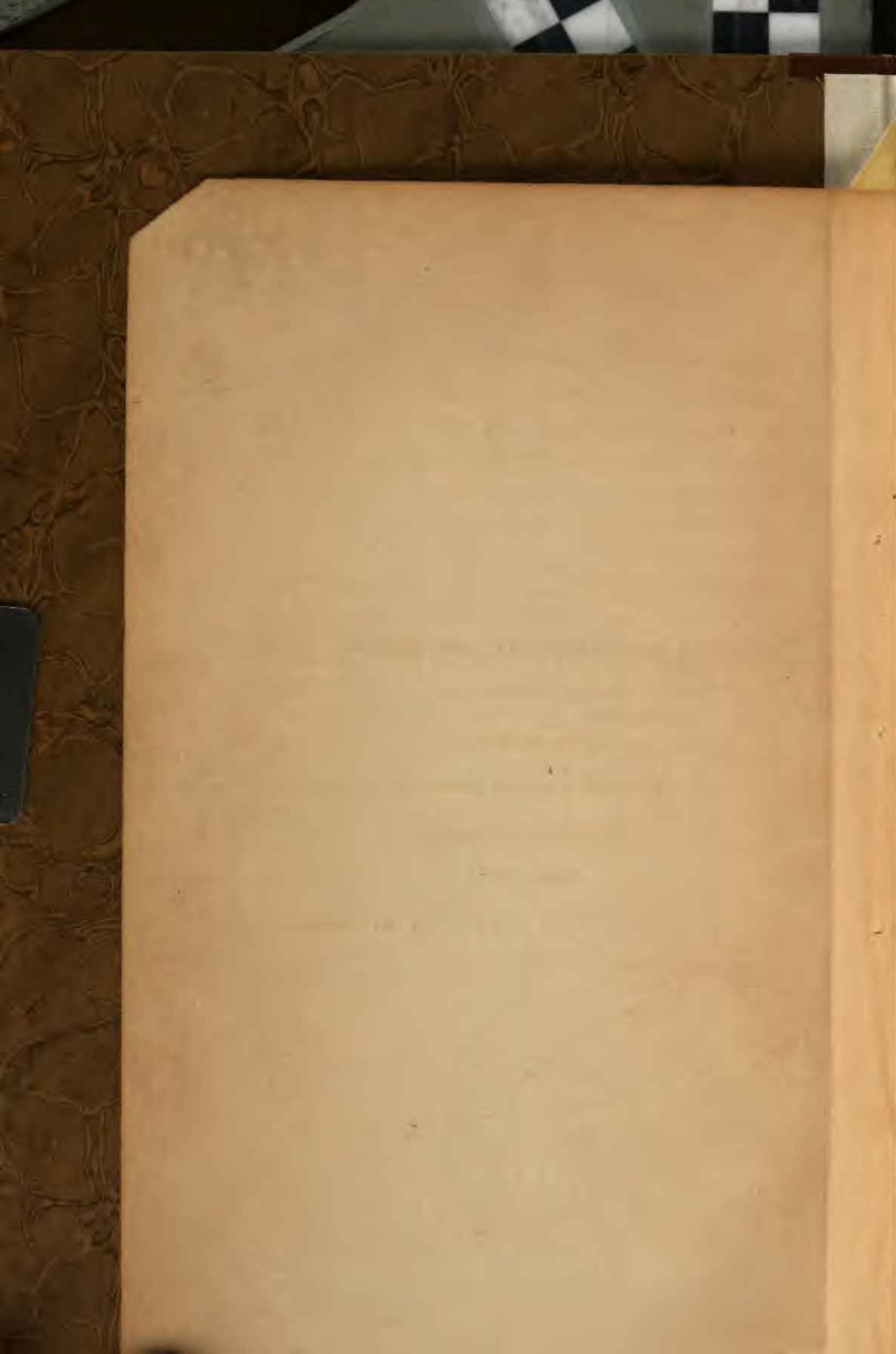
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A
DISCOURSE
ON THE
LIFE AND CHARACTER
OF THE LATE
HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL,
DELIVERED IN THE NORTH CHURCH,
SALEM, MASS.
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1845.

BY JOHN BRAZER, D.D.,
Pastor of the North Church and Society.

Printed by Request—Not Published.

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PRINTED AT THE GAZETTE OFFICE.
1845.



TO

MRS. MARY ELIZABETH SALTONSTALL,

HER CHILDREN AND FAMILY,

This Discourse,

PRINTED AT THEIR REQUEST,

Is affectionately and respectfully

INSCRIBED

BY THE AUTHOR.

Salem, May 19, 1845.



DISCOURSE.

JOHN V. 35.

HE WAS A BURNING AND A SHINING LIGHT; AND YE WERE
WILLING FOR A SEASON TO REJOICE IN HIS LIGHT.

I have placed this passage of scripture at the commencement of this service, not for the purpose of discoursing from it in the usual method, but simply to introduce some commemorative remarks on the Life and Character of one who has recently left his place vacant in this religious circle; who was inexpressibly dear to many hearts; who has filled a large space in public estimation; who was highly distinguished by professional ability; who has been, for a long period, among the most trusted, honored and beloved in this whole community; who in fine, in all the relations of life, exhibited, above most men whom I have known, the true dignity, power and attractiveness of the Christian character. In thus devoting the whole discourse to such a sketch, as the present interview may allow, to

some recollections of LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, I suppose I shall be acting in accordance not only with your expectations and my duty, but consulting equally your feelings and my own.

It may seem, at first view, that the subject of these remarks has been so long and widely known, both in private and social life, and as the depository of important public trusts, that any detailed biography may be well deemed superfluous. This might be so, if to impart information merely, were the only object of a tribute like this. But it has higher and more valuable uses. It is, at all times, a subject of enlightened inquiry to analyze into its component parts a character, which, as a whole, has left a deep and salutary impression on our minds. And when, as in the case before us, this impression is fraught with hallowed associations and gracious influences, it is equally a duty and a privilege to gather up and preserve those distinctive traits upon which the memory loves to linger, and which may serve to perpetuate the inspiring influences of a good example.

The personal history of Mr Saltonstall was marked by no startling vicissitudes. His life was an even and ever onward career of usefulness and honor; and though he was not spared from some of the gloomy passages of this probationary state, yet his life, considered in all its varied aspects, may be regarded as singularly felicitous. Its details are well known to this community, and have been made so familiar by the public tributes which have recently been paid to his memory,

that I need only refer to them in a brief summary. He was born at Haverhill, in this county, one of the most pleasing of our New England villages, and which, in an "Historical Sketch" of his, published nearly thirty years ago, he describes, "as one of the most beautiful spots for a settlement that can be conceived." He was the eldest son and second child of the late Dr. Nathaniel Saltonstall, and belonged to a family that has, at all times, since the first settlement of Massachusetts Bay, been distinguished for its patriotism, important civil services and high moral worth. He was born on the 13th of June, 1783, was prepared for College at Phillips' Exeter Academy, became a member of Harvard University at the early age of fourteen, and was graduated with distinction, in the year 1802. He began the study of the law with ICHABOD TUCKER, Esq., then of Haverhill, who, subsequently, for many years, was a highly respected Clerk of the Courts in Essex County; and completed his legal studies under the direction of the late learned and lamented WILLIAM PRESCOTT. He entered on the practice of his profession in his native town, but in May, 1806, removed to this city, where the remainder of his life was passed. He soon became distinguished among very distinguished competitors at the bar, was early called upon, by his fellow citizens, to take part in the public councils of both branches of our State Legislature, was President, at one period, of the Senate, afterward our Representative in Congress, and was regarded through his whole active life, as one of our most able, efficient, trust-wor-

thy and distinguished public men. He was the Mayor of our city; President of the Bible Society; the Essex Agricultural Society, and of the Essex a member of the American Academy of the and Sciences; of the Massachusetts Historical Society and of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University and received from this Institution the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. I cannot pause to speak, at length of the manner in which these high duties and offices were sustained. It must suffice to say, that he fulfilled them all, and illustrated them all, by a courteousness, fidelity, probity and high-mindedness, that rendered him continually, in each successive place and office more and more, the object of public esteem and confidence.

I come now to the more appropriate duty of the place and hour. This is to speak of the Character of our departed friend. But here, again, the accustomed limits of the occasion will allow me to present only a few leading traits. These, I hope, will be found to be prominent and distinctive. But to show how, in active life, they modified, and controlled each other, and how, in like manner, they were influenced, in their development and operation, by the less obvious parts of his mental and moral constitution; and, still more, how all were moulded or restrained in their effects by the peculiar environment of the circumstances in which he was placed; these are inquiries, which, both on account of their delicacy and extent, are unbefitting the present occasion.

I have but a word further to premise. And this is, that as I mean to make this sketch as characteristic as I can, I shall endeavor to render it thoroughly faithful, as far as it goes. I wish to present, if possible, a likeness, or rather the first lines or elements of a likeness, all that, in the providence of God, is now left to us, of our lamented friend, and not a fancy-piece. I shall studiously avoid, therefore, all labored eulogium, and the lavish heaping up of monumental epithets, as equally unworthy of the theme and place and service. I trust that the tribute will be at least honest and affectionate; honest, since a bald panegyric of such a man, it seems to me, would be no better than a blot on the escutcheon of his fair fame; and it must, of necessity, be affectionate, since it is impossible for any of us who knew the subject of it intimately, to think or speak of him but with hearts full of tenderness in the recollection of his endearing and elevated character, and now, alas! aching for his loss.

In entering upon this sketch, I first advert to the General Bearing or Deportment of our friend. Let not this be thought an unimportant element in character. It enters largely into those first impressions, whose import no wise man will disregard. It offers, whether intended or not, a significant commentary on all the subsequent professions and acts of the individual, and greatly affects his personal influence. The Manner or general Deportment of Mr. Saltonstall was frank, direct, ingenuous, and kind. It was not, perhaps, always equal, for his temperament was sanguine, and his susceptibility to

impression was quick and acute; and it might happen, therefore, that the infelicities of an occasionally clouded brow, and a manner somewhat perturbed, would be visited upon those, whose feelings, consciously, he would be the last to wound. But these inequalities, if such there were, were directly merged and lost out of sight in the genuine kindness, frankness and cordiality that pervaded his general bearing. There was, obviously, nothing hollow, insincere, indirect, or merely plausible, about him. He had nothing studied or artificial in his mien; no professions of deep interest for all he met in the streets; no stereotyped smiles for all comers. He despised, as all honest men must, such skin-deep homage to popular favor as this. But his whole deportment was simple, open and free; and all those minute impressions, by which every individual is, unconsciously to himself, revealing his real character to the accurate observer, were in perfect keeping with his avowed aims and purposes. In a word, whatever else you might miss or desire, you felt, at first sight, on meeting him, that you were dealing with a right-minded, truthful and honorable man; and all your subsequent intercourse with him, though it were life-long, would only serve to deepen the impression.

And yet with this openness both of deportment and conduct, there was united a singular Cautiousness of character. It was, if I do not err, the natural bias of his mind to examine subjects carefully and long, to place them in different attitudes, to view them, especially, in their darker aspects, and to anticipate difficulties before arriving at any decisive opinion or process of action. I

may greatly mistake, but he seemed to me to look at future results with a doubtful and forecasting eye, and to enter rarely on any plan or enterprize under the inspiration of hope. If this were so in any degree, its natural effect would be to cast a shade of indecision around him in the conduct of affairs. But when once, either from a sense of duty, or from the pressure of necessity, he became pledged and interested in any pursuit or project, every early appearance of irresolution vanished, the phantoms of doubt fled before his advancing step, his awakened powers gained continually new impulse from exertion, his strong love of honest fame, together with all the higher motives of his moral nature, became enlisted in the effort, the whole man, in a word, became identified with his purpose, and none were more decided, ardent, and effective than he.

In approaching the more essential parts of the character of our friend, I mean those which distinguished him as a Moral and Religious man, I first refer to one which was singularly characteristic. This was a Placability, a readiness to forgive wrong-doers, an earnest desire, as far as in him lay, to "live peaceably with all men." This distinguished him in his earliest youth, in his parental home, in all the domestic and social intercourse of his maturer years. It was, with him, equally the result of natural bias and of religious principle. Though his temperament was one of quick sensibility, and a high and just self-respect made him feel keenly any personal slight, or offence, yet he seemed utterly incapable of harboring any ill-will towards the offender.

In his profession it was his constant endeavour to prevent litigation, and not to promote it; to pacify the uneasy waters of strife, and not stir them up; to adjust differences, and not exasperate them; and thus, at the obvious sacrifice of his own immediate interest, to reconcile adversaries, who in their heady anger in prosecuting a doubtful right, were bent on doing themselves, as well as their opponents, an essential wrong. As a leading lawyer, for many years, he was habitually conversant with the keen encounters of the bar; as an eminent citizen he could not wholly escape the attacks of the envious and malignant; as a distinguished politician he was often exposed to the hot words and biting flings of excited debate; as a frequent candidate for public office, he was a prominent mark for the prevailing savagery that disgraces the political press in our country; yet he was the first, on all occasions, to forgive and forget an injury. He had too serious and elevated views of the social relations to sacrifice any of them to the poor purposes of retaliation. He was too magnanimous a man to descend to the littleness of revenge. He had no respect for the brute-like instinct and habits of the world at large, on this subject. He had studied in a better school; he had sat at the feet of a higher master; and possessed true manliness and moral courage enough, under all circumstances, and up to the utmost limits of duty and forbearance, to "love peace and ensue it." Indeed, to him above most men, belonged the beatitude of the Saviour, "Blessed are the Peace-Makers."

Connected with this rare and beautiful placability of

temper, I may refer, though it can be only in a brief allusion, to the general Benevolence and genial feelings which entered essentially into his moral nature, greatly promoted his own happiness, and contributed largely to his success in life. His Benevolence was of the most expansive kind. It was native to his heart, and it was quickened and instructed by religious principle. He labored for the public weal in the discharge of his public offices, and these had an additional value in his estimation as enlarging the field of benevolent effort. He was ever ready to lend his personal and pecuniary aid to all worthy objects. He strove to do good to all within the circle of his influence; and wretchedness, in all its multifold forms, was, peculiarly, the object of his solicitude and care. He loved to make others happy, and to see them so. He delighted in the reciprocation of kind affections, and in the interchange of kind offices. He was eminently companionable in his feelings, enjoyed with peculiar zest the innocent pleasures of social intercourse, and was always happy in extending to all his friends a cordial and kind reception in his own hospitable home. These generous and genial affections developed themselves in early life. They rendered him the general favorite of his associates at the University; and endeared him, especially, to those of his own Class, who as a body have been equally distinguished for talent, learning, professional eminence, and for the perpetuation of those gracious and kindly feelings of friendship which are but too liable to die away with the freshness and buoyancy of youth. They, in common with all his nu-

merous friends, will mourn his loss as a severe personal bereavement.

Another highly distinctive trait in the character of Mr. Saltonstall, was his Reverence for the Right, a deep sense of Moral Duty and Obligation. The law of rectitude was the supreme law of his life. It was, with him, no conventional bond. He found it written on his soul by the Hand Divine; he read it by the light of his own consciousness; he recognised its supreme and un-borrowed authority; and felt that its decisions here and now, were prophetic intimations of a final award, at a Higher Tribunal hereafter. But while he implicitly obeyed this inner sense of right and wrong, he was fully aware that it was liable to be perverted and blinded; and that, in point of fact, some of the blackest sins in this sinful world, have been perpetrated on the alleged authority of conscience. It was his habitual care therefore, to enlighten and educate it, so that the light within him should not be worse than darkness; that it should be an authentic ray from the Primal Source of all light, and not a reflection from those strange fires which are kindled from below.

This principle of conscience, thus carefully instructed and guarded, went with him into all his social intercourse. He was a thoroughly Honest man; honest, not only in the common negative sense of not violating human laws, and of omitting to avail himself of undue advantages over others, but he was honest in the higher sense of being true, sincere, and trust-worthy in all the relations and intercourse of life. He possessed, in an

eminent degree, the rare virtue of an Uprightness of character, that nothing could break or bend. A spotless Integrity marked all his aims and acts, and brought the separate details of principle and conduct into one consistent whole. A singular Probity reigned throughout his life, which led him under all circumstances, to look singly to the right, and to pursue it for its own sake.

But this Conscientiousness was most fully developed in his intercourse with himself. Kind and considerate in his estimate of the conduct of others, he was severe and inflexible only in his estimate of his own. He could bear any other loss but the loss of self-approval. His standard of duty was high, his moral perceptions keen and apprehensive, but they were nowhere brought into such a searching analysis, as in his own habitual habits of self-inspection.

I come now to speak of what I have always considered the most distinctive, as well as crowning grace, in the character of Mr. Saltonstall. This was the sentiment of Reverence. He was eminently and thoroughly a reverential man. This principle was deeply implanted in the natural constitution of his mind, and to cultivate and improve it, was his constant care. Superior to pride, that is ever looking downward for contrasts favorable to its own glorification, and despising vanity, which is too full of its own emptiness to look beyond itself, he delighted to look reverentially upward. He loved to recognize and to honor all that was approvable, great and excellent, wherever found. This fair and grand Universe considered as the work of God, and

the earliest revelation of his power and goodness; Rank, Influence and high Condition worthily won and worthily used; Distinction, of all kinds, honorably achieved and meekly borne; legitimate Authority; established Usages; time-honored Institutions; Monuments of Antiquity; Places where great and stirring Deeds have been done; the Sepulchres of the Departed; great Names and recognized Authorities that gleam forth like beacons, in the long track of the past; eminent Worth among his Associates and Contemporaries; all these, and all things else, which bear the mark of rightful superiority, received his ready and deferential homage.

This sentiment, thus naturally strong within him, was fostered by the circumstances of his birth. It was his rare privilege to trace his lineage from an ancient and distinguished family, and that respect for antiquity, which always enters as an element into reverential feeling, was, in his case, quickened and matured by his connection with an honored ancestry. He was born too, at a period, when our public institutions had not wrought out all their levelling influences; when the social distinctions of life received due honor; when religion entered palpably into the details of every-day life; when domestic discipline was rightfully enforced; when legitimate authority was considered as implying some submission and obedience on the part of those subjected to it; when duties were regarded before claims; when high deference was supposed to be due to parents and superiors; when, in a word, all those

habits and emotions, which are of the very essence of reverence, were rife in the public mind, and when, therefore, most of those incidental and impalpable influences which do more than all direct instruction to form the character of the young, were favorable to a reverential state of mind. In these sentiments, and in this general tone of feeling, Mr. Saltonstall largely participated. It was peculiarly manifested by him in the sacred offices of filial love and duty. He regarded the relation which God has formed between parent and child as being, in itself, most sacred, and as intended, in an especial manner, to call forth and mature that feeling of reverence, which, at first, hallowing their mutual intercourse, goes on to connect itself with all that is good, great, conservative and loyal in life, and ultimately centres upon its worthiest object, even the Infinite and Eternal God. For his mother, particularly, who long survived his father, he ever felt, and ever expressed, in a thousand uncommanded ways, the sincerest deference and respect. He knew that Christian mothers do most, under God, to make true and high men, and that his did much to make him, and ever felt that the measure of his duty to her, was nothing less than all a grateful and loyal son could do. And when she became burthened with years and infirmities, and public distinctions and honors were accumulating upon him, it was his pride and pleasure, in every act of reverential love and self-exalting humility, to follow the example of that best of human children, whose story is recorded of old, who, when seated as a second Pharaoh on the

highest throne then on the earth, left it, that he might go, in royal state, to pay filial homage and respectfulness to his humble, old and infirm parent.

But this sentiment of Reverence, as was right and fitting, found its best and fullest expression in his condition and duties as a Religious Being. It was the object and business of his life to keep a duteous walk with God. He loved to view His works as the glorious symbol of His august attributes, and to consider those events that fill up life's little history, as fraught with a divine significance which the thoughtful and serious spirit should interpret and apply. But these upward tendencies of his soul were most fully developed and sustained by the more express revelation of the will of God by the Lord Jesus. He made its Evidences and specific Doctrines an early study, and it was never far from his thoughts at any subsequent period of his life. In one of my interviews with him, in his last sickness, he told me he had been revising his theological studies, and had been strengthened in his conviction of the divine origin of the Christian Revelation, and placed his entire faith in this, on those great Facts, to which his Lord and Master originally appealed as the authentic seal of his divine mission; namely, those Miraculous Works, "which none could do, unless God were with him." He expressed, also, an intense regret, and as deep an abhorrence as his gentle spirit could feel on any subject, for those ill-considered, conceited and scoffing speculations, by which reckless men attempt to shake the faith of others in these great Facts. Born and bred

in the stern faith of his Puritan ancestors, but which, afterwards, through much painful study, and great mental conflict, he felt obliged to renounce, he yet took with him to his more enlarged views of God and Christ and duty, much of that solemn awe and exquisite tenderness of conscience, which are often connected with those speculative opinions, which his mind, in all other respects, had outgrown. His attention to the Institutions and sacred Rites of Christianity was constant, earnest and exemplary. He believed them to be of divine appointment, as instructive in themselves, and as suggestive of touching associations and wholesome influences, which no intelligent and good man would willingly forego. He gave to them no merely formal, or stinted, or half-reluctant service, but in every way, his ready, hearty, personal aid. None of us will soon forget the solemnity and fervour with which he habitually lent his rich, mellifluous and well-taught voice to join in lifting up our hymns of praise to the most High, from that place now shrouded in the sad drapery of mourning in token of our irreparable loss. His very presence and deportment here, were a mute but most edifying commentary on the sacredness of the service. He was the first superintendent of our Sunday School, and for many years, by his personal attention, pecuniary assistance and weighty influence, did much to sustain and strengthen it. He felt, as may I say? but too few in all our congregations, feel, that without the earnest and sympathizing co-operation of the People, the Pastor must labor all but hopelessly, and in vain. In this, as

in our interests generally, as a Christian Society, he was unspeakably important to us. In all our concerns, he was the first to be sought, the readiest to serve, the last to shrink, from any fitting duty of a devout Christian and Good Parishioner.

May I add, in this connection, that he was one of the best of Good Hearers. His hearing began before he left his home, and coming to our worship with a prepared and accessible heart, he was open to every good impression while here. He could find, therefore, even in the defective services of the minister, suggestive hints for serious thought. He gave his whole soul to the duty of the place, and considered every thing approaching to lightness and frivolity as equally indecent and indeavour. He well knew the inexpressible difficulties of the pastoral office, at the present day, and, especially, in our denomination, and always took great pleasure in being pleased with any well-intended effort; was more anxious to examine into the spiritual state of his own heart, than to ascertain the critical value of the sermon; and could find much occasion for generous praise, where others, who in mental and spiritual culture were vastly his inferiors, could find little, but to criticise and undervalue.

In a word, he made a near approach to that highest manifestation of God's love and grace here below, that of being a true Christian; a whole-hearted, devoted, sincere, conscientious, pre-eminent Christian. He was a Christian everywhere, and in all relations of this trial-state. At home and abroad; in his retirement and in

ordinary duty ; in the intercourse of private life, and in those public trusts and that political intercourse, where, as an element of conduct, religion too seldom enters ; he was an avowed and consistent Christian. But his religion was not exhibited in any studied staidness or affected sanctimoniousness of bearing. He was too devout a follower of his Master for this. But it discovered itself in the only way that it should ever discover itself, that is incidentally, unconsciously, and only avowedly, when the occasion called for an outright expression of it. It, ordinarily, made itself known in the natural, and therefore universally understood, language of manner, look and tone. It escaped, as it were, because it could not be repressed, from a heart overburthened with its own religious sentiments and emotions. His life, to sum up all, was a "living sacrifice," held consecrate to the One true God, and to Jesus, whom God hath sent. And I think, I am aware of the import of my language, when I say, that it was with him the all-absorbing purpose of life, to become in all respects, what God would have him to be. His habitual affections were worship ; his prevailing state of mind, adoration ; and his most earnest hopes, fears and aspirations, themselves, prayer.

In thus dwelling upon the moral qualities of Mr. Saltonstall, I have left myself little opportunity to speak of his Intellectual Endowments and Mental Culture. Restricted, at furthest, to narrow limits, I have chosen to dwell longest upon what I deem to be most important. But it must not be hence inferred that in his intellectual

capacities and powers, and in their energetic and successful exercise, both in professional and public life, he is entitled to no especial commemoration. On the contrary, in all these respects, he was distinguished scarcely less than by his moral and religious worth.

His perceptions appeared to me to be equally quick, clear and comprehensive. His inferences from them were ready and just, though, perhaps, as I have already intimated, rendered, apparently, somewhat infirm as a basis of action, by an extreme cautiousness, an over-nice forecast, and a want of antedating hope. His observation of facts and events was always awake and active, but not for the mere gratification of an idle curiosity. He regarded them rather as outward and palpable expressions or representatives of something beyond themselves, an indication of some preceding state of things, and as prophetic of certain results which would naturally ensue. He was distinguished, in consequence, for practical wisdom, sound judgment, skill in affairs, and for an uncommon share of that rarest of all mental accomplishments, admirable common sense. Indeed, the habits of his mind were discursive, in the better or philosophical sense of the term. It was habitually employed in tracing resemblances and analogies, in connecting the unknown with the known, and in referring facts to principles. He seemed to seize, by a sort of intuition, upon the axis-thought, on which any given inquiry turned, and laid out his strength, mainly upon that. He was an accurate observer of character, though always leaning to the favorable side, keen to

discover the narrow and often evanishing line between truth and error, the right and the wrong, the real from the apparent, the substance from the form. He well understood, though he was not harsh to note, those fallacies, both of theory and usage, that men practise upon each other, and those, too, scarcely less numerous, which they practice upon themselves. I do not know that he was particularly fond of mental labor for its own sake, though his power of voluntary attention when it was called for by any exigency, was great, and most conscientiously exerted. His peculiar tastes led him, not so much to works of fancy and imagination, though these were not neglected, as to those of more solid import, and especially to those connected with his duties and tastes as a professional and public man. His knowledge of History generally, and of Political Economy, in its different branches, was various and accurate. An heir to the Puritans, both by birth and spirit, he loved to trace their eventful annals in all their details, and there were few amongst us, whose knowledge of our early history was, at once, so minute and comprehensive as his. He was endowed with an imposing person, great natural fluency of expression, a lucid, simple and forcible diction, and a singular power of identifying himself with his theme, which lent to his oratory a reality, naturalness, impressiveness, and persuasive energy, which no merely artistical culture can afford. It is easy to infer, that, possessed of gifts and accomplishments like these, he could scarcely fail of success in professional and public life. And such was

the fact. He was early distinguished at the Bar, and has uniformly been considered a cautious, safe, enlightened, conscientious and disinterested counsellor. He was wholly incapable of drilling, or tampering with, or browbeating witnesses, or of resorting to any professional stratagems or artifice; and his whole deportment towards parties, his legal brethren, juries and the court, was marked by a fairness, urbanity, uprightness and honor, which have done much to create and uphold the acknowledged high character of the Essex Bar. He felt that every man had a right to be heard in his own defence, and that it was no part of his duty to pre-judge the claims, real or supposed, of any one; but he had no respect for that atrocious professional hardihood, not, it is said, wholly unknown in legal practice, which "knows nothing but the client;" which contends for victory only; and is as earnest, and apparently as honest, in urging a bad cause, known to be such, as in sustaining a good one. Having never witnessed any of his forensic efforts, I can offer no analysis of his character as an advocate. But his undisputed eminence, as such, for many years, is, of itself, a decisive fact, and the tradition of some arguments, in which his whole moral nature was particularly enlisted, assigns to him a forward place among the most powerful pleaders of our age and country.

I am equally unable, also, and for a similar reason, to speak of Mr. Saltonstall as a statesman and political debater; and happily for the fidelity of this commemorative notice, it is not necessary. Few men were so

widely known in these relations, in his native State particularly, as he was, and none were more highly estimated. He derived his political opinions from patient and conscientious inquiry, and not from the roar of the multitude; and being based on principle, they were not swept away or changed with the flows and ebbs of popular sentiment. They were consistent with each other. They were faithfully followed out. They were habitually acted upon. He sought the public weal with as single an aim as others seek private thrift. He was an avowed and a devoted disciple of what he deemed the Washington school of politics, both in their primary significance, and in their application to all the subsequent phases of affairs which our history has assumed. In debate he was decided, frank and explicit in taking his positions; sincere and earnest, it may have been, at times, vehement, in urging and defending them; but always perfectly fair and courteous in his deportment towards those who differed from him in opinion. It was, in consequence, his almost singular felicity, as a public man, to win and to secure the entire confidence and esteem of his political friends, while, at the same time, he conciliated the respect and good will of his political opponents.

But it is the end that crowns the work. The Man, in this instance, was the result of the Discipline of Life. Events, as they occurred, each in its turn, tried and taught him, and then passed away amongst forgotten things. But the man remained essentially the same, and only progressively changed to a higher being, through

the moral culture and spiritual energy that these passing events called forth. Out of those pure and rare elements of character which God originally imparted, and by the varied vicissitudes of the probation through which God called him to go, a sincere, high, honorable, eminent Christian Man was formed. The moral image of Himself, that God at first estamped upon the soul of our friend, was brightened, irradiated and brought into full relief, by the attritions of this harsh mortal life. And now, I doubt not, that it has been removed to a higher state, where it will gather, henceforth and always, ever new and intenser glories from the ever increasing effulgence of God's nearer presence.

Yes, it is the end that crowns the work. And the end of his earthly work was the priceless crown of the recollection of a life well-spent; cheerful submission to his Heavenly Father's will; a general preparation of character that God, we may trust, will accept and bless. "Mark the perfect man, for the end of that man is peace." This peace was eminently his. That clear and deep-seated religious faith, which had been the light and law of his life, which had guided and guarded him through a long career of useful, beneficent and honorable action, still sustained and upheld him, when this career was drawing to its close. It sustained him during a protracted and foreboding sickness. It sustained him in the near and conscious approach of that hour, when he was called to leave a life full of usefulness, full of happiness, full of every thing that rendered existence dear in his social position and domestic ties. It sustained him,

as nothing else could, through his final leave-taking with a family circle that concentrated, in itself, all that ineffable goodness of our Father in heaven, which is faintly shadowed forth in those most intensely suggestive of all human words—A HAPPY CHRISTIAN HOME! None whose sad privilege it was to be near him then, can ever forget the submissive, solemn, serene, sublime example he exhibited, when that home was to be left, never more to be entered. Above all, none of those will ever forget it, to whom his life had been one continued expression of conjugal and paternal love; and to whom this parting was the last manifestation of a heart filled with love to them, and of confiding piety towards God. With a full appreciation of the signal blessings with which he had been surrounded; with a devout thankfulness to Him, from whom they flowed; with a deep sense of all that is implied in a change from the seen and palpable of this world, to the unseen and unknown realities of a future state of being; he reaped, at last, and felt the full efficacy of the blessing of the ascension gift of the Saviour of the world: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

I must here bring this feeble tribute to a close. I have, now, no time to derive from it, those religious uses which it forcibly suggests, nor to offer to his mourning family those religious solaces, which they must greatly need. Nor is it necessary. The whole life of LEVERETT SALTONSTALL is more suggestive of edifying instruction than any words of mine can be; and the memory of his

virtues must be, of itself, to those dearest to him, a sufficing consolation. Let this then, with all the aids of God's good spirit shed abroad in their hearts, serve to sustain them. And let us, his fellow-worshippers and friends, let all who knew and valued him, honor his memory, as he himself would have preferred, by perpetuating all the good influences of his example in our own lives, so that when we shall be called to follow him to an eternal state, we may enter, as we trust he has, into that "Rest that remaineth to the people of God."

APPENDIX.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ESSEX BAR.

A meeting of the Essex Bar was held at Ipswich, on Thursday morning, May 8th, 1845. It was called to order by BENJAMIN MERRILL, Esq., and proceeded to the choice of a President and Secretary.

BENJAMIN MERRILL, Esq., was chosen President of the meeting, and EBENEZER SHILLABER, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. Merrill then made the following remarks:—

Brethren of the Essex Bar:—The lamented decease of LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, the eldest member of this Bar, and for many years its President, fills our breasts with emotions of profound sadness. The whole extent of the professional lives of all of us has been spent by his side; we have witnessed his successful and honorable career at the bar;—his abilities, his legal learning, and his distinguished eloquence as an advocate;—his devotion to the true interests of his clients, and his fidelity to the Courts. Our profession has been honored by his intellectual, moral, and social qualities. He possessed, in an eminent degree, the qualities that win and secure the entire confidence, the ardent attachment, and the sincere respect, not only of his brethren, but of the whole community. We should be unjust to ourselves if we suppressed the feelings of grief that fill our bosoms at the loss of one so loved and honored.

The following *Resolutions* were then moved by Hon. JOSEPH E. SPRAGUE, seconded by NATHANIEL J. LORD, Esq., and unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the decease of the HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, for many years President of this Bar, is an afflicting event, which deprives us of a brother and associate whom we all have long loved and honored.

Resolved, That it is our privilege, as well as duty, to cherish the remembrance of the professional, social, and moral excellencies of our la-

mented brother, whose deportment and conduct at every period, and in all the relations of life, have been an example worthy of respect and imitation.

Resolved, That the members of the Bar respectfully express their deep sympathy to his bereaved family, and request permission to unite in testifying their respect to his memory, by attending his funeral solemnities.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary of this meeting be requested to present to his family a certified copy of these proceedings.

Resolved, That the same officers also cause the proceedings of this meeting to be communicated to the Court now in session in Ipswich.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT.

The death of the HON LEVERETT SALTONSTALL was announced in the Supreme Court, on Thursday morning, May 8, 1845, by Mr. Merrill, who presented the resolutions which had been adopted by the Bar, with the following remarks.—

May it please your Honor :—The members of the Bar have requested me to solicit the indulgence of the Court to the expression of the emotions of deep and unaffected sorrow at the recent occurrence of the decease of their associate and brother LEVERETT SALTONSTALL,—an event which is afflicting not only to the Members of the Bar, but creates a deep sensation and leaves a wide chasm in the whole community.

Mr. Saltonstall has long enjoyed in an eminent and uncommon degree the respect, attachment and love of his fellow-citizens.

He was born in this county, and descended from ancestors who through every period of the history of our State, from its earliest settlement, have been among its most eminent citizens and distinguished benefactors,—his life has never sullied, but has added lustre to the name. A familiar acquaintance with him for nearly fifty years, through his academic, collegiate and professional life, authorizes me to bear testimony, in which all will concur, that the qualities of his heart and the faculties of his mind formed a combination that attracted, in an uncommon degree, respect, attachment and love ; his warmth of heart, cordiality of feeling, disinterested kindness, sincerity and frankness, ever cheered and gladdened the circles in which he moved ; the purity and

firmness of his moral principles, the independence of his conduct, and the soundness and vigor of his intellectual powers, secured the respect and consideration of his fellow-citizens.

His preparatory legal studies he prosecuted under the tuition of the late learned William Prescott; an intimate friendship and mutual high regard existed between them till the decease of the latter. At the time Mr. Saltonstall was admitted to the Bar, he found in practice here an extraordinary assemblage of eminent lawyers, Theophilus Parsons, Nathan Dane, William Prescott, Samuel Putnam, Charles Jackson, Joseph Story, John Pickering, Daniel A. White, all of them celebrated in the history of our jurisprudence, and many of them since elevated to high judicial dignities in the state and nation. By the side of all these eminent practitioners Mr. Saltonstall soon acquired high rank by his ability, learning and integrity. His eloquence at the Bar and in legislative bodies was powerful, persuasive, and brilliant: it was the eloquence of the heart,—the sincere and cordial expression of the ardent feelings and deep emotions of a generous and noble nature. He has died not at advanced age, but his life has been long—for it has been filled with deeds of benevolence and acts of usefulness.

The Members of the Bar, in common with all his fellow-citizens, feel that his loss is a painful bereavement—it depresses our feelings and engrosses our sensibilities. We should be unjust to ourselves if, when so much worth passes away, we did not pause amid the bustle of life, and pay to his memory the homage of our hearts.

To this address JUDGE WILDE replied at considerable length, with deep sensibility—expressed his sympathy with the feelings of the Bar, his regret at the early loss of so useful and excellent a citizen as Mr. Saltonstall, whose worth and excellence he had known and highly esteemed for forty years.

The Court passed an order that the proceedings of the Bar be entered on their record, as a memorial to future times of the respect in which Mr. Saltonstall was held, and then adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

At a special meeting of the City Council, on Saturday, May 10th, called by order of the Mayor, Mr. Roberts submitted the following Resolves, which were unanimously passed, viz:

Resolved, That the members of the City Council deeply deplore the

decease of the late HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, the first elected Chief Magistrate of the City of Salem, and, as a citizen, alike honored and distinguished in all the relations of life, both public and private.

Resolved, That the members of the City Council tender their sincere and profound sympathy to the family of the deceased, under this severe affliction and bereavement.

Resolved, That in token of their respect for the many and manly virtues of their late honored and honorable fellow citizen, the members of the City Council will attend in a body the funeral of the deceased.

Resolved, That an authenticated copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

DEATH OF THE HON. MR. SALTONSTALL.

The following article was published in the Salem Gazette of May 9th. Some facts have been added :

It is with inexpressible sorrow that we announce the decease of our distinguished and respected fellow citizen, the HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL. He died yesterday morning at 4 o'clock. It rarely occurs that the death of an individual creates so deep a sensation of grief, and leaves so wide a vacancy in society. He was universally loved and respected.

MR. SALTONSTALL was the representative of a family that has been conspicuous in our history from the earliest settlement of New England. His ancestor, Sir Richard Saltonstall, was the first named associate of the six original Patentees of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, and was appointed the first Assistant. On board the Arbella, while lying at Yarmouth in the Isle of Wight, he, with Gov. Winthrop and others, signed the "humble request of his Majesty's loyal subjects, the Governor and Company late gone for New England, to the rest of their brethren in and of the church of England," in which they take a tender and affecting leave of their native land on their departure for their "poor cottages in the wilderness." They arrived at Salem, in the Arbella, on the 12th June, 1630, and brought with them the Charter of Charles I.

On the 17th June, Sir Richard Saltonstall, in company with Gov. Winthrop, and other principal persons, left Salem and travelled

through the pathless forest to Charlestown to select a place of settlement. The want of good water and of other conveniences induced several of the party to explore the neighboring country. Some went over to Shawmut, now Boston; others proceeded northward by Charlestown neck to a place well watered on Charles River, where Sir Richard Saltonstall, with the learned Rev. George Phillips, and others, commenced a plantation, and called it Watertown. Johnson, an early historian, says, "this town began by occasion of Sir Richard Saltonstall, who, at his arrival, having some store of cattle and servants, they wintered in those parts." They entered into a liberal church covenant, July 30, 1630, which is published by Dr. Mather, who adds, "about forty men, whereof the first was that excellent Knight, Sir Richard Saltonstall, then subscribed this instrument."

He was present, as First Assistant, at the first Court of Assistants, which was held at Charlestown, Aug. 23d, 1630, at which various orders and regulations were made concerning the planting and government of the infant Colony.

The sufferings of those engaged in this new settlement in the wilderness were extreme the first winter, and Sir Richard Saltonstall became discouraged from remaining himself, but left his two elder sons. Gov. Winthrop has recorded in his Journal, that "March 29, 1631, he, with his two daughters and one of his younger sons, came down to Boston and stayed that night at the Governor's, and the next morning, accompanied with Mr. Pierce and others, departed for their ship at Salem."

Sir Richard Saltonstall through life continued to be the friend of the colony and was actively engaged in promoting its prosperity. Two of his sons remained here, and he was interested as a large proprietor. When Sir Christopher Gardner attempted to injure the Colony by misrepresentations, and on other similar occasions, for Massachusetts was troubled in its infancy by false accusations of enemies, he rendered the colony efficient assistance, and interceded in its favor with the government at home.

He was a puritan, but of singular liberality in his religious opinions; he was offended at the bigotry of his associates, who as soon as they were themselves free from persecution, began to persecute others, and he addressed to Rev. Mr. Cotton and Rev. Mr. Wilson a letter on the subject, and remonstrated against this inconsistency. It is written with ability and in a catholic spirit, and has been reprinted and admired to this day. He says,—

" Reverend and Dear Friends, whom I wyfeignedly love and respect :

" It doth not a little grieve my spirit to hear what sad things are reported daily of your tyranny and persecutions in New England, as that you fine, whip, and imprison men for their consciences."

* * * * *

" I hope you do not assume to yourselves infallibility of judgment, when the most learned of the apostles confesseth he knew but in part, and saw but darkly as through a glass. Oh, that all these who are brethren, though they cannot think and speak the same things, might be of one accord in the Lord."

* * * * *

This letter, written between 1645 and 1653, shews the lively interest he felt in the honor and welfare of the colony.

Sir Richard Saltonstall was also one of the patentees of Connecticut, with Lord Say and Seal, Lord Brook, and others, and a principal associate with them in the first settlement of that Colony. They appointed John Winthrop Governor, and commissioned him to erect a fort at the mouth of Connecticut river. In 1635 Sir Richard Saltonstall sent over a bark with twenty laborers to take possession of land for him under his patent and to make settlements.

In 1649 he was commissioned with others, by Parliament, for the trial of Duke Hamilton, Lord Capel, and the Earl of Holland, for high treason. They were condemned and executed on a scaffold erected before Westminster Hall.

Sir Richard Saltonstall has been justly styled "one of the Fathers of the Massachusetts Colony." He was a patron of Harvard College, and left it a legacy in his will made in 1658. There is a fine portrait of him in the possession of his descendants. He died soon after 1658.

RICHARD SALTONSTALL, son of Sir Richard, was born 1610, settled at Ipswich, and was chosen an Assistant in 1637. He was a man distinguished for firmness and decision, attached to the principles of the New England government and churches, and an ardent friend to the liberty of the people.

In 1642 he wrote a pamphlet against the Standing Council, a subject that caused much agitation through the Colony.

In 1645 he entered his protest against the introduction of Negro Slavery :

" Upon a petition of Richard Saltonstall Esqr for justice to be done on Capt. Smith and Mr. Keyser for their injurious dealing with the negroes at Guinea, the petition was granted and ordered that Capt.

Smith and Mr. Keyser be laid hold on and committed to give answer in convenient time thereabouts."—*Col. Rec. Vol. 3, Oct. 1645.*

The following is the petition :

To the hon'd Generall Court,

The oath I tooke this yeare att my enterance upon the place of As-sistante was to this effect. That I would truly endeavour the advancement of the Gospell, and the good of the people of this plantation ; [to the best of my skill] dispencing justice equally and impartially, [according to the lawes of God and this land] in all cases wherein I act by virtue of my place. I conceive myselfe called by virtue of my place, to act [according to this oath] in the case concerning the Negers ; taken by Capt. Smith and Mr. Keser ; wherein it is apparent, that Mr. Keser upon a saboth day gave chace to certaine Negers ; and upon the same day took divers of them ; and at an other time killed others ; and burned one of their townes. Omitting several misdemeinours which accompanied these acts above mentioned ; I conceive the acts themselves to bee directly contrary to these following lawes ; [all which are capitall by the word of God, and two of them by the lawes of this jurisdiction].

The act [or acts] of murder [whether by force or fraude] are expressly contrary both to the law of God and the law of this country.

The act of stealing Negers ; or of taking them by force ; [whether it bee considered as theft or robbery] is [as I conceive] expressly contrary both to the law of God, and the law of this country.

The act of chaceing the Negers [as aforsayde] upon the saboth day [beeing a servill worke, and such as cannot be considered under any other heade] is expressly capitall by the law of God.

These acts and outrages beeing comitted where there was noe civill government which might call them to accompt ; and the persons by whom they were comitted beeing of our jurisdiction ; I conceive this Court to bee the Ministers of God in this case ; and therefore, my humble request is that the severall offenders may bee imprisoned by the order of this Court and brought unto their deserved censure in convenient time ; and this I humbly crave that soe the sinn they have comitted may bee upon their owne heads ; and not upon ourselves [as otherwise it will.]

Yrs in all christian observance,

RICHARD SALTONSTALL.

The house of deputs think meete that this petition shall be granted and desire our honored mgis'ts concurrence herein.

EDWARD RAWSON.

Court Records 5 mo. 1645—July 1645. "The Court thought fit to write to Mr. Willams of Piscataqua that the Negros, which Capt. Smith brought were fraudulently and injuriously taken and brought from Guinea by Capt. Smith's confession and the rest of the company, that he forthwith send the negro, which he had of Capt. Smith hither, that he may be sent home, which the Court doth resolve to send back without delay, and if you have any thing to allege why you should not return him to be disposed of by the Court, it will be expected you should forthwith make it appear either by yourself or your agent, but not to make any excuse or delay in sending of him."

In a subsequent page of the record is the following :

"The General Court conceiving themselves bound by the first opportunity to bear witness against the heinous and crying sin of manstealing, as also to prescribe such timely redress for what is past, and such a law for the future as may sufficiently deter all others belonging to us to have to do in such vile and most odious courses, justly abhorred of all good and just men, do order that the negro interpreter with others unlawfully taken, be by the first opportunity at the charge of the country for the present sent to his native Guinea, and a letter with him of the indignation of the Court thereabouts, and justice thereof desiring our honored Governor would please put this order in execution."

He was one of the few persons who knew where the Regicide Judges, Whalley and Goffe, were concealed, and in 1672 gave them £50.

He was a relative and friend of John Hampden, (grandson of the celebrated parliamentary leader,) who was distinguished in the time of Charles II., and James II., and who joined in the invitation to the Prince of Orange. He, as well as his father, was a benefactor of Harvard College. Dr. Mather records the name of Saltonstall among those benefactors of the College "whose names it would be hardly excusable to leave unmentioned." All his male descendants in Massachusetts, except two, have been graduates at this college.

Mr. Saltonstall was absent several years in England, where he had three daughters married. He returned to Massachusetts in 1680, and was again chosen the First Assistant, and also the two succeeding years. In 1683 he again visited England. He was an Assistant, except when he was in England, from 1687 till his death; he died at Hulme, April 20, 1694, and left an estate in Yorkshire.

HENRY SALTONSTALL, who was in the first class that was graduated at Harvard College, is said by Gov. Hutchinson to have been a son or grandson of Sir Richard Saltonstall. Like several other early gradu-

ates, he *went home* after leaving college, and received a degree of Doctor of Medicine from Padua, and also from Oxford, and was a fellow of New College in that University.

NATHANIEL SALTONSTALL, son of Richard, and grandson of Sir Richard, was graduated at Harvard College in 1659, and settled in Haverhill on the beautiful estate half a mile east of the bridge, still known as the "Saltonstall seat." This spot, exceeded by none in New England for fertility of soil and beauty of landscape, was with other land conveyed to him by the Rev. John Ward, the first minister of Haverhill, on the marriage of the daughter of Mrs. Ward to Nathaniel Saltonstall.

He was chosen an Assistant in 1679. He took an active part in seizing and deposing the tyrannical Royal Governor, Sir Edmund Andross, and, after his removal, became one of the Council of the Revolutionary government, and so continued till the charter of William and Mary, and was then appointed one of his Majesty's Council. His powers of mind were superior, and he was free from the prevailing bigotry and fanaticism of the times. He was opposed to the proceedings against the Witches, in 1692, and expressed his sentiments freely. Mr. Brattle, in his account of the witchcraft, says, "Maj. N. Saltonstall Esq., who was one of the Judges, has left the Court, and is very much dissatisfied with the proceedings of it." He died in 1707, and left three sons, Gurdon, Richard and Nathaniel.

GURDON SALTONSTALL, the eldest son of Nathaniel, was Governor of Connecticut, and was celebrated for his extraordinary talents and extensive learning. Dr. Eliot says, "he was an oracle of wisdom to literary men of all professions." He was one of the greatest and best men New England has produced. He was a benefactor of Harvard College. His widow bequeathed to it £1000, for the use of two students designed for the ministry. He died in 1724.

RICHARD SALTONSTALL, the second son of Nathaniel, was graduated in 1695; he resided in Haverhill, sustained several civil and military offices, and was an excellent and very respectable man. He died in 1714.

NATHANIEL SALTONSTALL, third son of Nathaniel, was also graduated in 1695, and was a tutor in the College. He died young, and left a high reputation for abilities and learning.

RICHARD SALTONSTALL, son of the last named Richard, was born June 14, 1703, and graduated in 1722; at the age of twenty-three he received the commission of Colonel; and in 1736 he was appointed a Judge of the Superior Court. In 1741, while the Court was in session

at York, the celebrated Rev. Samuel Moody wrote the following lines on the court :—

“LYNDE, DUDLEY, REMINGTON, and SALTONSTALL,
With SEWALL, meeting in the Judgment Hall,
Make up a learned, wise, and faithful set,
Of God-like Judges, by God’s counsel met.”

Judge Saltonstall was a man of talents and learning. He was distinguished for generous and elegant hospitality, and for bountiful liberality to the poor. His address was polished, affable and winning, his temper was gentle and benevolent, and he enjoyed the love and esteem of all. He died in 1756, and left three sons and two daughters ; one of the latter was wife of Col. George Watson, of Plymouth, and the other to Rev. Moses Badger, Minister of the Episcopal Church at Providence.

He had been married three times ; his third wife was a daughter of the second ELISHA COOKE, of Boston ; the first ELISHA COOKE had married the daughter of Gov. Leverett—the second Elisha Cooke married a daughter of Richard Middlecott, Esq., a wealthy and respectable citizen of Boston. Richard Middlecott in 1672 married a grand-daughter of Gov. Edward Winslow.

Elisha Cooke, senior, and Elisha Cooke, junior, were distinguished for abilities and elevated character, and for forty years were popular leaders and champions of Colonial rights and freedom ; they were both representatives of Boston, and by their influence swayed not only the people of Boston, but the General Court : both were at different times sent to England as Agents of Massachusetts, the first to obtain a restoration of the Old Charter—the other to oppose the Royal Governors.—The first died in 1715—the other in 1737, leaving a son, Middlecott Cooke, and a daughter who became the third wife of Judge Richard Saltonstall.*

NATHANIEL SALTONSTALL, who was graduated in 1727, was a brother of Judge Saltonstall. He was a merchant, and died young.

Col. RICHARD SALTONSTALL, eldest son of Judge Richard by his first wife, was born April 5, 1732, and was graduated in 1751, with high reputation for scholarship, having had “the oration.” In 1754 he was

*The late learned Rev. Dr. Bentley, a native of Boston, was an enthusiastic admirer of the two Elisha Cookes ; he fancied that the word *Caucus* was derived from *Cooke’s-house*, the Cookes having frequently called popular meetings at their houses. He also conjectured that it might have been derived from *Caulkers*, because the Cookes were accustomed to assemble the Caulkers at their houses, with the other patriotic mechanics of Boston.

commissioned as Colonel of the Regiment in Haverhill and vicinity, and was the fourth of the family in succession who held that office. He served with the Provincial troops in the campaigns of 1756 and 1757, against Crown Point. At the capitulation of fort William Henry, in 1757, when the Indians commenced the massacre of their unarmed prisoners, he escaped into the forest, and a day or two afterwards reached Fort Edward, nearly exhausted by hunger and fatigue. After peace took place he was Sheriff of the County. At the Revolution he was a loyalist, and went to England. He died unmarried, at Kensington, Oct 6, 1785. When he resided on the family estate in Haverhill, he was highly respected and beloved for his benevolence, hospitality, courteousness, and integrity. His younger brother, Leverett, third son of Judge Richard, was also a loyalist; he died in 1782.

The late Doct. NATHANIEL SALTONSTALL, father of our fellow citizen just deceased, was second son of Judge Richard Saltonstall, above mentioned, and of Mary, daughter of the second Elisha Cooke. Dr. Saltonstall was born Feb. 10, 1746,—on the death of his father in 1756, he was received into the family of his maternal uncle, Middlecott Cooke, Esq., of Boston. Dr. S. was a distinguished and skilful physician, and through life enjoyed the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens. He loved tranquillity and retirement, and avoided the bustle and perplexities of public life. In 1780, he married Anna, daughter of Samuel White, Esq., whose ancestor was one of the early settlers of Haverhill in 1640. She was a descendant of Gov. Winthrop* on the maternal side; through life she was distinguished for the gifts of her mind and the virtues of her heart. Dr. S. died May 15, 1815, and his widow in 1841. Their three sons, Leverett, Nathaniel, and Richard, are deceased; of their four daughters, two are living, Anna, wife of James C. Merrill, Esq., of Boston, and Sarah, wife of Isaac R. Howe, Esq., of Haverhill. The descendants of Dr. S. are the only descendants of the Cooke family and the Middlecott family.

His son, the HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, whose decease is now deplored, was the worthy descendant of this long line of eminent ancestors, including among them not only SIR RICHARD SALTONSTALL, but GOV. JOHN WINTHROP, GOV. EDWARD WINSLOW, and GOV. JOHN

*Gov. Winthrop's daughter was married to Lt. Gov. Symonds,—their daughter Ruth to Rev. John Emerson, of Gloucester,—their daughter Mary to Samuel Phillips, of Salem,—their daughter Sarah to William White of Haverhill, June 12, 1716,—and their son was Samuel White, who was father of Anna, the wife of Dr. N. Saltonstall.

LEVERETT. In his veins flowed "all the blood of all the Howards ;" and in his character clustered the virtues of all his ancestors.

He was educated at Harvard College and was graduated in 1802 ; he maintained a high literary rank in a class unusually large, and remarkable for genius and ability. He there formed ardent attachments and warm friendships that have endured for life, and which nothing but death could sever. The full warmth of his early affections never abated amid the chilling cares of later days ; he was constant, firm, disinterested, and indefatigable—he never lost a friend—he was formed to be loved and trusted.

He commenced the practice of law in 1805 ; he soon became distinguished at the bar and entered on a large and successful professional business. He was an able and eloquent advocate and a learned and faithful lawyer. A high and pure sense of duty, as well to the court, as to his clients, presided over his conduct. He abhorred the arts of chicanery and the base expedients of rapacity. He was emphatically an honest lawyer.

The confidence and favor of his fellow-citizens called him at an early period of life to the State and the National Legislatures ; in those bodies his unsuspected integrity, enlightened principles and powerful eloquence gave him merited consideration and influence.

His private life was an example and illustration of the social and domestic virtues ; he was just, kind, disinterested, frank, magnanimous, and honorable,—bountiful to the poor, and an ardent friend and liberal benefactor of institutions of learning and charity.

He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and of the Massachusetts Historical Society. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him by Harvard College. He cherished an ardent affection for the places of his education, Harvard College and Phillips' Exeter Academy ; in his will he has made a bequest of books to be added to the library of the latter, and to the former he has given a legacy to increase the fund long since bequeathed to it by his ancestors.

To all his friends he has left a precious and invaluable legacy,—the remembrance of his virtues—recollection of his Christian life and of his Christian death.

The subjoined notice, prepared by HON. STEPHEN C. PHILLIPS, was published in the Salem Gazette, of May 13.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL.

Others, as might have been expected of them, have already paid appropriate tributes of respect and affection to the memory of the excellent man whom so many loved and honored while he was living, and whose remains have been just borne to the grave in the affecting presence of a weeping community. It may still be permitted to one more friend to attempt to preserve the suggestions of the moment, and with a pen tracing only impressions upon the memory and the heart, to group a few brief sketches of his life and character.

Those more competent to the task, have described Mr. Saltonstall as a lawyer. Amidst distinguished competitors he attained unusual eminence as an advocate, and he was relied upon by his clients as a cautious, judicious, and safe adviser. No one could strive more assiduously to prevent litigation, to adjust controversies, to heal breaches. No one, in the practice of the profession, could be less inclined than he was to employ any unworthy arts, or resort to subterfuge, to brow-beat an opponent, to insult a witness, or to treat with the slightest disrespect the court or the jury. In all these respects his example has long exerted a visible influence upon the Essex Bar, and they have honored themselves as well as him by their grateful acknowledgment of what they owe to it.

Mr. Saltonstall was the first Mayor of the City of Salem. He took the office that he might be useful in it; and by the fidelity with which he discharged its various and arduous duties, by the courtesy with which he mingled with his official associates, by the deep interest which he manifested in the concerns of the city, and in the welfare even of its humblest citizens, he made himself the object of universal respect, and, in not a few striking instances, of heartfelt gratitude. Many of those who mourn and have cause to mourn his death may be found in the houses of the poor, and even amongst the inmates of the Alms House; and scarcely a citizen can walk the streets who has not had some occasion to acknowledge his services.

In the Legislature of the State Mr. Saltonstall commenced and closed his political career. At an early age he took his seat in the House of Representatives, and in that body at different periods, even to the very close of his public life, he rendered perhaps his most valuable services, and was distinguished and honored beyond almost any of his cotempo-

raries. He was an effective debater, and in the committee room none could surpass him in the faithful, patient, and intelligent performance of all his duties. He was a member of the Senate in two most important political junctures, and as a leader of the majority he assumed a full share of responsibility for its acts. He also presided over the Senate with admirable dignity and to universal acceptance. In the political service of Massachusetts he felt himself *at home*, and the State never had a citizen who maintained her character with a nobler pride, or labored for her welfare with a purer zeal. *With his whole soul he loved Massachusetts.* Had he been one of those who landed upon Plymouth Rock, he could not have been more fully imbued with the spirit of the Puritans, and from his ancestors who came to Salem in the *Arbella*, he inherited a full measure of devotion to the political and religious institutions which have made Massachusetts all she is. Yes, he was in every sense, *a true son of Massachusetts.* At home and abroad, in public and private life, under all circumstances and at every period, would you reach his heart and desire to move it, you need only to praise or to attack Massachusetts, and you could not forget Leverett Saltonstall as he responded to the eulogy or repelled the aspersion. Would to God that such a spirit as he possessed might never be absent from our public councils, and could not be extinguished in the hearts of our people? Would to God that he might yet and long speak from his grave in what all remember of his earnest appeals and stirring remonstrances, and not speak in vain in vindication of the character and institutions and principles of Massachusetts!

In the discharge of his duties as a Representative in Congress, Mr. Saltonstall fully sustained the reputation he had previously acquired, and made the most favourable impression upon all who there observed his official course, and became personally acquainted with him. He spoke with evident effect upon many important occasions; he discussed constitutional questions as one familiar with the principles and necessary rules of construction to be applied to them; he opposed rash and hasty legislation with the instinctive caution which always characterized him; and he addressed himself with assiduity and intelligence to the promotion of measures which the welfare of the people demanded. At the commencement of the administration of Gen. Harrison, he was appointed to the responsible station of chairman of the Committee of Manufactures, and upon him consequently devolved the burthensome duty of digesting a new and entire Tariff, having reference alike to the supply of the ascertained deficiency of the revenue, and to the protection and development of the vital interest of domestic industry. Few can

estimate the magnitude and difficulty of this task; but being required to undertake it, he entered upon the work with resolute determination, and prosecuted it to its completion with persevering energy. For months he gave the greater part of every day to severe intellectual labor upon the subject. He engaged in an extensive correspondence for the purpose of obtaining desirable information from all sources; and by his patience and industry in collecting facts and his judgment and skill in collating them, he was enabled to understand the actual condition and the wants of the country, and to exhibit a result which might prove the basis of wise and safe legislation. The Report and Bill which he presented in behalf of the committee, are memorials of the value of his services as a practical statesman; and although the system which he prepared was not formally accredited as it came from his hands, it was substantially adopted to such an extent, that none will hesitate to ascribe to him a large share of the honor which is due for the passage of the Tariff of 1842.

While in Congress Mr. Saltonstall formed many intimate friendships with the leading members, by all of whom his death will be regretted with the sympathy which those only can feel who esteem and deserve to be esteemed by each other. He was known and proud to be known as a personal as well as a political friend of HENRY CLAY; and while none can wonder that two such men should have felt the attraction of kindred hearts, all who have honored them both will remember with interest the warmth and earnestness with which he availed himself of every occasion to vindicate the public and private character of his much injured friend. Every one in his presence saw and felt that when he performed such a service he spake from the heart and to the heart, and that it was an act of personal justice more than political fidelity, the duty of a friend rather than a partizan, which he conscientiously and fearlessly performed.

As a public speaker, Mr. Saltonstall was a particular and lasting favorite. His musical voice and graceful action blended harmoniously with the natural method in which he arranged his thoughts, and the simplicity of the diction with which he clothed them. His manner of speaking was conformed to no artificial standard, but art could not improve it. It was always interesting, often pathetic, and sometimes deeply exciting. His eloquence was eminently persuasive, reaching directly and at once the minds and hearts of those who listened to him, and indicating the purity of the source from which it flowed. It cannot be described in more expressive terms than those of Cicero—"plena animi, plena spiritus, plena veritatis."

Mr. Saltonstall was a PATRIOT. In no modern or affected sense—for no selfish purpose and for no mere party end—but in the earliest, the uncorrupted American sense of the term, in the sense in which it was applied to Washington, and in which it has been and can be applied to but a small portion of our public men. Mr. Saltonstall was through life, in heart, steadily, practically a patriot. He loved his country, her institutions and her people. The blood of the patriots of the Revolution flowed in his veins, and he never disowned or disgraced his origin. The Constitution, as the wisdom of our fathers devised it, he had carefully studied and thoroughly understood, in its letter and in its spirit, in its objects and its means; and with a scrupulous fidelity, which the usual construction of an official oath does not sufficiently indicate, he never sought and he would not consent, by any abridgement or extension of its powers, to impair or violate it. The Union he prized as Washington prized it, in the same spirit, for the same purposes, and to the same extent, and there was not an act of his life, which impartially considered and rightly construed, could bring into question his readiness and his anxiety to do every thing which the Constitution required or permitted for the preservation of the Union.

Mr. Saltonstall did not engage in political life without fixed principles and definite purposes; and as every element of his character was suited for sympathy and co-operation, he became closely identified with one of the two great parties, into which, under the necessary influence of the fundamental principle of our institutions, the country must be divided. In every honorable sense, he was a decided, zealous, and active partizan. He could not be indifferent, and he would not be unfaithful; and though he never sought to precipitate a crisis, and never panted for a conflict, every crisis found him at his post, and every conflict proved how much he attracted the notice of his opponents by the ardor and earnestness with which he defended the cause of his friends. Every one that knew him must feel that in his political action he kept himself beyond suspicion, and exhibited himself without disguise; and that he would be the first to consider his biography incomplete and his memory dishonored, if it were not recorded of him that he lived and died a Whig—inflexible in his principles, unwavering in his course, unstained by a single suspicion of vacillation or inconsistency. Let it then be gratefully recorded and proudly remembered of him, that in aid of the political cause to which he was devoted, his voice was never silent, his vote was never withheld, and that in every form of public and private exertion his influence was always visible, and in this community must even yet long be felt. So anxious was he that noth-

ing which he could accomplish should remain unattempted, that he would not hesitate to give up his time, subject himself to inconvenience, and endanger his health, even upon a slight occasion for making himself useful.

A partizan as he was, Mr. Saltonstall was remarkably exempt from the infirmities and vices which beset and too often adhere to men long engaged in public life. In the political arena, as at the bar, he never compromised his personal character—he never resorted to the subtleties of equivocation—he never stooped to acts of meanness—he probably never indulged a malicious thought or purpose—he certainly never “sought occasion of revenge.” His heart was “open as day” to his opponents as well as to his friends; and the evidence is not wanting that the former as much as the latter, felt and respected his sincerity. Both have shed tears together over his grave, and both may be equally trusted to do justice to his memory.

In the offices of private friendship, Mr. Saltonstall exhibited his character in all its charms. Inquire of the few who can recollect his boyhood, of his college classmates, of his professional brethren, of his family relatives, of any who have joined the circle which always assembled around his domestic hearth, and if they can give utterance to their emotions, they will bear the testimony more to be prized than any other to his rare and unsurpassed personal, domestic and social virtues. His home might well be supposed to be an abode of happiness; but how much his presence and the influence of his example contributed to make it happy, let no friend beyond its precincts attempt to describe. Wherever he went the warmest greeting awaited him, for “none knew him but to love him;” and “once a friend” he was “a friend till death” of all the wise and good of his acquaintance. His cotemporary for a half-century will tell you that the virtues which scattered such a profusion of fruits and flowers along his path through life budded and were “admired of all beholders” in his youth; that the ingenuous boy was the type of the honest man, and that the graces and charms which clustered in his character were never acquired, but always belonged to him.

Such, imperfect and unsatisfactory, is a rapid review of some of the important acts of his life, and of the striking traits of his character. To refer effects to their cause, it is only necessary to add that LEVERETT SALTONSTALL was a CHRISTIAN. His nature was peculiarly adapted to the development of the religious sentiment, and, under the most favorable influence of parental culture, it germinated in his childhood, “grew with his growth, and strengthened with his strength.” No intellect ever grasped the truth of the Bible with a clearer apprehension, and

no heart embraced it with a warmer faith. The uncorrupted Christianity of the Bible—"built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone"—comprehending every doctrine which Jesus taught, and rejecting the "commandments of men"—the Christianity divinely revealed and attested and not of human inspiration—it was this in which he believed and hoped and trusted, as long as he lived, and in his dying hour. In an interview with the writer, during his sickness, he stated the interesting fact that he had recently reviewed the grounds of his religious opinions by a careful study of the scriptures, and that his faith had been delightfully refreshed and immovably strengthened.

His interest in religion was constantly manifest in his support of its institutions. As he loved the Bible, he loved the Sabbath and the Church. Never can he be forgotten by his fellow-worshippers, as joining in the songs of the sanctuary, he "made melody in his heart to the Lord," and, by his regular attendance upon all the ordinances, constantly proved how much he felt the obligations which he had professed.—The teachers and scholars of the Sunday School, of which for many years he was the Superintendent, will long remember what they owed to his services and example; and the various religious associations of which he was a member will still derive encouragement from the enduring proofs of his co-operation in their proceedings.

His private life—the only sufficient test—bore ample evidence of the efficacy of his religious faith. In the discharge of his ordinary duties, in the execution of many important trusts, amidst all his social relations—as a son devoted to aged parents—as a brother proving himself even more than a brother where it was important that he should be so—as a husband and father and the head of a household—as a friend and neighbor—as a benefactor to the poor who will testify how much he did for Christ by simply recounting what he did for them—in short in every station which he occupied, in every office which he filled, in his daily walk, wherever he could be observed, it was distinctly to be seen that he recognized his religious obligations, and that he seldom failed in fulfilling them.

The faith which he had cherished, and the life which he led, prepared him of course for a christian death. The symptoms of a fatal disease gave previous notice that the event was approaching. Without a murmur or a sigh, with unruffled composure, with almost unvarying cheerfulness, he bore the trials of a painful sickness, and, in a spirit of calm resignation, he approached the grave. Lingered on its brink, he meekly performed the last offices of pious affection, and uttering at in-

tervals, as long as he could speak, delightful assurances of his gratitude for the past and his hope for the future, he exhibited in his placid countenance the silent but expressive testimony that he felt within him to the end

"A peace above all earthly dignities,
A still and quiet conscience."

In connection with his religious character and death, it should not be forgotten that our departed friend was a true lover of nature. How many can remember him as in his early morning walks he went forth with a light step and a cheerful countenance, gazing with rapture upon the varied landscape, charmed with the brilliancy and fragrance of the flowers, listening with a responsive heart to the grateful music of the birds, and imparting to all whom he accompanied or met the animating glow of his ardent emotions! Who that can sympathize in his poetic and devout admiration of the beauties of nature, will not love to remember that upon his dying bed he prized an opening rose-bud as a choice symbol of the goodness of God; and who that feels how much he felt "the sacred inspiration of the morning hour," will fail to be struck with the fitness of the moment of his death, occurring as it did at the very break of day, while the stillness of the external scene corresponded with his inward serenity, just as the "glimmering dawn" betokened the light of immortality which was beaming on his spirit, and at the instant the birds had begun to chant his requiem!

EXTRACT FROM REV. DR. FLINT'S DISCOURSE,

Delivered in the East Church, the first Sabbath of the preacher's officiating in his own pulpit, after the decease of the Hon. L. Saltonstall, from the following text; 2 Thessalonians, ii. chapter, parts of 16 and 17 verses. "God, even our Father, who hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts."

When I first saw him in his fresh and blooming boyhood at the university, his person and deportment were strikingly beautiful and engaging, indicative of the purity of his untainted soul, of the truthfulness and trust, the social and joyous heartiness, with which he met and reciprocated the love and cordial companionship of his class-mates of congenial warmth of feeling, of kindred hilarity of spirit and high relish of the innocent pleasures of life,—a trait which marked his character in after years, when with religious gratitude he partook gene-

rously, but never intemperately, of the good things of heaven's bounty, esteeming, with the apostle, every creature of God to be good and to be received with thankfulness.

His collegiate course was without stain or reproach, beloved alike by his fellow students and instructors, evincing the justness of the old Latin adage, "virtue is more lovely emanating from a beautiful form."* He graduated quite young, but with honorable rank in scholarship. All the attractive and shining qualities of character which so endeared him to the affections of his classmates, and won for him distinction among his distinguished cotemporaries, were retained and received continual accessions of loveliness and brilliancy of polish, as he prosecuted in this city the preparatory studies of his profession, and as, at the same time and through life, when these studies, and afterwards his increasing business as a lawyer, and the many offices he filled, as a public man, left him brief intervals of leisure, he improved these intervals in storing his mind with general knowledge and in gratifying his taste for elegant literature. Mr. Saltonstall regarded his descent from illustrious ancestors, distinguished through a long line for talents and worth and high standing in the community, not as a subject of self-complacent and indolent pride, but as a call and an incentive to emulate their virtues, their public services and generous deeds, which proved them to be nature's noblemen, and thus to add another shining link to the chain that had been lengthening and kept bright through successive generations from the first of the name in New England down to himself, who has now been gathered to his progenitors with honors, equal to those of the most honored of his race, and as universally beloved, as he was known and honored.

As a public man, others knew him better than I; and, wherever his decease has been known, his eulogy has been pronounced with a remarkable unanimity of testimony from men of all parties, to his able and faithful public services, to his integrity and honesty of purpose, to his ardent love of his country, to his disinterested devotion of property, time and a glowing eloquence to its true interests and honor, or what he sincerely believed to be such. His professional brethren, and all, who have witnessed his long and successful practice in our courts of justice, have acknowledged his ready and persuasive eloquence, as a popular advocate,—his skillful, but always fair and honorable management of whatever cause he undertook—that, while he made his client's cause his own, he used no dishonest arts to disparage that of his adversary,—that he never betrayed a trust or neglected a

* "Virtus pulchrior est eveniens e corpore pulchro."

business of whatever nature, which his clients, his friends, or fellow-citizens confided to him.

As an orator he was not formed by art, but was made so by nature. He was a striking example of the eloquence of which Quintilian speaks, "His heart made him eloquent." His fine person, a flexible and charmingly modulated voice, won the attention and delighted the eye and ear of his auditors, whether he conversed in private or delivered an argument or a speech in public. From familiar and critical acquaintance with the scriptures of the New Testament unusual for a layman,—I speak advisedly here, he of late years having generally introduced the subject of religion when conversing together by ourselves,—from careful study of the evidences and enlightened conviction of the truth of the Christian revelation, Mr. Saltonstall was a devout and practical Christian. The religious sentiment was strong in him through life, early developed and fostered as it was by a religious mother's faithful instruction and winning example of gentleness and piety. Like young Timothy, early and long a cherished son and fellow laborer of Paul in the gospel, he was indebted to a mother and grandmother, both unfeignedly believing and devout Bible Christians, for his earnest faith and for the depth and warmth of devotional feeling, which pervaded his character and kept his heart pure, his conscience undefiled, and his morals unspotted from his childhood to his latest breath. He has told me that his mother often referred to her mother, who was a daughter of the Rev. Richard Brown, fifth minister of South Reading, as the model she aimed to follow in her household management and training of her children. The religion of Mr. Saltonstall made him the virtuous and useful citizen, the excellent and happy man, the exemplary and idolized husband and parent, that he was; and his rare social qualities made him the companion, most loved and cherished by his classmates when and wherever he met with them, whose presence was ever hailed by them, as the signal of living over again the hours and renewing the by-gone joys of our youthful companionship and exemption from the cares of later life.—Those pleasant meetings crowded with pleasant memories come thronging to my mind, as I retrace the long track of years, which I have travelled with him, who has begun, alas before me, "the travel of eternity."—I can add no more. May the reflection that we are all on the same road, and not far behind, soften our regrets for the departed, and incite us to more earnest diligence and fidelity in following the steps of those, who through faith and patient continuance in well doing, are gone to inherit the Christian promises in God's heavenly presence, to go no more out forever.

RECOLLECTIONS OF HIS COLLEGE LIFE.

BY A CLASSMATE.

Mr. SALTONSTALL entered Harvard College in 1798. His classmates were generally strangers to each other, shy of forming acquaintances, yet curious to discover the character of their future companions. At the first recitation in Latin, Saltonstall in construing Horace, rendered "hominum recentum" by the word Freshmen. This piece of pleasantry was received with a smile by the tutor, and a cordial laugh by the class, and led us to desire to know more of one who introduced himself so agreeably to our notice. We found him so frank and amiable in his manners, with so little reserve and no disguise, that his character was soon understood and his good qualities as well as his faults, were apparent to the most superficial observer, so that he won immediately that confidence which is commonly the growth of long acquaintance.

Every one admired his good fellowship, his generous temper and warm heart, and he soon became the centre of the social gaiety of the class, and the leader of its fun and frolic. But his genial spirits never transgressed the bounds of decency or good morals, though they sometimes trespassed on the strict rules of College discipline, in which, however, he was generally detected, for his powerful and musical voice towered above the confused clamor of his companions, and he scorned to resort to the prevarication which is too often the defence of juvenile delinquents. His honesty and ingenuousness usually obtained for him the remission or mitigation of his fine or admonition, as well as the confidence of the College Government.

Saltonstall was among the few who appreciate at the time they enjoy it, the happiness of a College life. His ancestors, for many generations, were educated at Cambridge, and some of them were its liberal benefactors, which created in his mind a peculiar respect for that University. He regarded it as truly an Alma Mater to him; he left it with regret, and to the end of his life manifested a warm affection for it, by zeal for its welfare and an anxious observation of its progressive improvement. He delighted to revisit the home of his youth, and attended every annual Commencement except two, from the time he graduated.

In his time, there was more distance and reserve in the intercourse of the elder members of the Government with the students, than pre-

vails at present. The presence of the President was awful; no conversation, even in a whisper, was allowed between scholars in his study. We stood before him with profound respect, and regarded him as a Sage whose oracular responses were to be obeyed, not questioned; yet we all loved and venerated him.

Saltonstall was a favorite of his instructors, especially of our particular tutor, a gentleman still living, whose devotion to the improvement of his pupils, has ever since been acknowledged by the respect and esteem of the Class, and with whom it was the happiness of Mr. Saltonstall to form and preserve the closest friendship.

The love of truth which he manifested at College, then and ever after secured him the undoubting and implicit trust of his friends; he never said what he did not believe, or promised what he did not intend to perform; and his fine, candid countenance, and manly deportment, soon gained for him the same credit with strangers.

His rank as a scholar was high, and he had an earnest and fervent manner in his declamation, which made him an interesting and agreeable speaker; but he did not possess at College that industry and love of mental labor which afterwards raised him to high honor and usefulness.

He had been piously educated, and brought from home impressions of his religious duties, which were not effaced by the gaiety and frivolity by which he was surrounded, for he obeyed the paternal injunctions of searching the Scriptures and revering the Sabbath.

With many of his classmates he contracted friendships which were continued without interruption through his life. No man was ever truer to his friends than Leverett Saltonstall, or stood by them more steadily in distress and adversity. Many of them were less fortunate than he was in the distribution of the prizes of life. He never forgot the claims of these, or turned from them in coldness. On the contrary, his counsel, his countenance and his purse, he gave freely, and the latter bountifully. Prosperity and success did not change his manner or harden his heart; he never calculated the hazard of assisting a friend in need, but committed himself generously in the cause of those in whose integrity he confided.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SALEM BIBLE SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the Bible Society of Salem and vicinity, the following Resolution, presented by Hon. STEPHEN C. PHILLIPS, was passed unanimously :

Resolved, That in the death of its late President, the Hon. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, this Society laments the loss of one whose official services were for many years freely devoted to the promotion of its interests, and whose character through life bore ample testimony to his sense of the value of the Bible as the only and all sufficient rule of Christian faith and practice.

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